## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 have been cancelled and new claims 9-16 have been added.

The amendments to the claims have been made only to improve the form of the claims for examination purposes.

The specification and abstract have been amended to conform it to U.S. format. No new matter is being added by this amendment.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Sy: Gerald H Kiel

Reg. No. 25,116

May 15, 2006 REED SMITH LLP 599 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022-7650 GHK:jl

Enc.:

Substitute Specification Substitute Abstract Marked-up/bolded Versions